

1.26. (CANCELED)

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of anchoring a fitting to a base member of a mineral composition, the method comprising the steps of:

forming a cylindrical cavity in the base member to open from a surface of the base member, the cavity having a bottom surface. ✓

providing a cylindrical plug-element of [[the]] said mineral composition having a top and an underside, the plug-element having a diameter and thickness substantially the same as the diameter and depth respectively of the cavity and having an axial bore therethrough, ✓

providing a fitting having a base and a threaded portion upstanding from the base, ✓

inserting the fitting into the underside of the plug-element with [[its]] the threaded portion of the fitting extending lengthwise of the bore of the plug-element and [[its]] the base of the fitting engaged in a recess in the underside of the plug-element for precluding movement of the fitting relative to the plug-element, and ✓

after the fitting has been inserted into the plug-element as aforesaid, entering the plug-element into the cavity for close-fit retention therein by adhesive film with the top of the plug-element substantially flush with said surface of the base member and the underside of the plug-element abutting the bottom surface of the cavity to trap [[and]] the fitting trapped therein within the cavity under the plug-element. ✓

28. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of forming the threaded portion of the fitting as an internally-threaded tubular portion.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 28, further comprising the step of extending the tubular portion the length of the bore of the plug-element so as to open at said surface of the base member. ✓

30. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of forming the base of the fitting as an elongate configuration and forming the recess as a substantially conformal configuration for restraining the fitting from turning relative to the plug-element.

31. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of ~~supplying~~ supplying adhesive in the cavity before the step of entering the plug-element into the cavity, and dispersing surplus adhesive from the cavity via channels in the plug-element. ✓

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fitting anchored to a base member of a mineral composition, wherein the fitting has a base and a threaded portion upstanding from the base, the base member has a surface and a cylindrical cavity that opens from the surface of the base member and has a bottom surface, the cylindrical cavity has a diameter and a depth, a cylindrical plug-element of ~~[[the]]~~ said mineral composition is located within the cylindrical cavity, the cylindrical plug-element having a top and an underside and having a diameter and a ~~depth~~ thickness substantially the same as the diameter and depth respectively of the cylindrical cavity for close-fit location within the cylindrical cavity with the top of the plug-element substantially flush with the surface of the base member and the underside of the plug-element abutting the bottom surface of the cavity, adhesive film within the cylindrical cavity for retaining the cylindrical plug-element within the cylindrical cavity with the top of the cylindrical plug-element substantially flush with the surface of the base member and the underside of the plug-element abutting the bottom surface of the cavity, ~~there is a cavity in the underside of the cylindrical plug-element~~ has a recess therein, and wherein the fitting is trapped in the cylindrical cavity under the plug-element with its threaded portion extending lengthwise of the axial bore through the plug-element and its base engaged in the recess in the underside of the plug-element for precluding movement of the fitting relative to the plug-element. ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

33. (ORIGINAL) The fitting anchored to a base member of mineral composition, according to claim 32, wherein the threaded portion of the fitting is an internally-threaded tubular portion.

34. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fitting anchored to a base member of mineral composition, according to claim 33, wherein the tubular portion extends the length of the axial bore of the plug-element to open at said surface of the base member. ✓

35. (ORIGINAL) The fitting anchored to a base member of mineral composition, according to claim 34, wherein the base of the fitting is of an elongate configuration and the recess in the underside of the cylindrical plug-element has a configuration conformal with the elongate configuration of the base of the fitting for restraining the fitting from turning relative to the cylindrical plug-element.

36. (ORIGINAL) The fitting anchored to a base member of mineral composition, according to claim 32, wherein the cylindrical plug-element has channels therein for dispersing adhesive from the cavity.